Claims

1-16. (canceled)

17. (currently amended) A messaging method, comprising:

selecting a message type for a message for delivery to at least one selected recipient;

evaluating application presence data associated with a recipient activity status record for

an initiated application associated with the selected message type; and

processing the message based on the evaluation,

wherein the status record is modified as a result of querying to determine if the

application has been recently accessed.

18. (previously presented) The method of claim 17, further comprising obtaining the

application presence data from a presence repository.

19. (previously presented) The method of claim 17, further comprising obtaining the

application presence data from an application server.

20. (original) The method of claim 17, further comprising delivering the message to the

user if the evaluation indicates that the recipient is available.

21. (original) The method of claim 17, further comprising discarding the message if the

evaluation indicates that the recipient is unavailable.

22. (original) The method of claim 17, further comprising directing the message to a destination selected based on the evaluation.

23-36. (canceled)

37. (previously presented) The messaging method of claim 17, wherein the selected application is at least one of a chat application and an instant messaging application.

38. (currently amended) The messaging method of claim 17, wherein the recipient activity status record indicates ~~is associated with~~ how recently the initiated application has been accessed.

39. (currently amended) The messaging method of claim 38, wherein the recipient activity status record indicates ~~is associated with~~ how often the initiated application has been accessed.

40. (currently amended) The messaging method of claim 17, wherein the recipient activity status record indicates ~~is associated with~~ how often the initiated application has been accessed.

41. (previously presented) The messaging method of claim 17, further comprising sending an alert to a user and updating the recipient activity status record based on a response to the alert.

42. (previously presented) The messaging method of claim 17, further comprising selecting a time interval, and updating the recipient activity status record based user access to the initiated application during the time interval.

43. (new) The messaging method of claim 17, wherein the application presence data is contained within a first network and the initiated application is executing on a second network.

44. (new) A messaging method, comprising:

selecting a message type for a message for delivery to at least one selected recipient;

evaluating application presence data associated with a recipient activity status record for an application associated with the selected message type; and

processing the message based on the evaluation,

wherein the status record is modified without initiating the application.

45. (new) A messaging method, comprising:

selecting a message type for a message for delivery to at least one selected recipient;

evaluating application presence data associated with a recipient activity status record for an initiated application associated with the selected message type; and

processing the message based on the evaluation,

wherein the status record is modified as a result of querying to determine if the application has been recently initiated.